

**REMARKS**

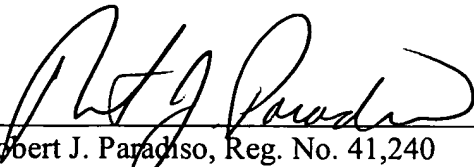
The application has been amended to adapt the specification and claims of the underlying international application to U.S. practice. Claims 1 to 18, as presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/EP2003/013546 have been canceled, and new claims 19 to 36 have been added.

Applicant believes that no fees are due as a result of this amendment. In the event of a fee discrepancy, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Robert J. Paradiso, Reg. No. 41,240  
(signing for Thomas P. Canty, Reg. No. 44,586)

Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC  
485 Seventh Avenue - 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10018  
(212) 736-1940